

REMARKS

In the Official Action mailed on **February 23, 2005** the Examiner reviewed claims 1-20. Claims 1, 8, and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Witt et al. (USPN 5,831,462, hereinafter "Witt"). Claims 2-3, 9-10, and 16-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Witt et al. (USPN 5,831,462) in view of Wadsworth (WO Patent No. 01/56084A1), prior art cited on PTOL-1449.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Independent claims 1, 8, and 15 were rejected as being anticipated by Jones.

Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 8, and 15 to include allowable limitations from dependent claims 4, 11, and 18, respectively. Dependent claims 3-4, 10-11, and 17-18 have been canceled without prejudice. Dependent claims 5-6, 12-13, and 19-20 have been amended to correct antecedent basis. New dependent claims 22-24 have been added to reinstate original dependent claims 7, 14, and 21, respectively.

Hence, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 8, and 15 as presently amended are in condition for allowance. Applicant also submits that claims 2, 5-6, and 22, which depend upon claim 1, claims 9, 12-13, and 23, which depend upon claim 8, and claims 16, 19-20, and 24, which depend upon claim 15, are for the same reasons in condition for allowance and for reasons of the unique combinations recited in such claims.

CONCLUSION

It is submitted that the present application is presently in form for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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